

Marked-up version:

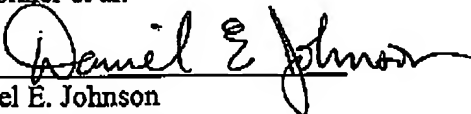
This application is a continuation-in-part of and claims priority to Applicant's copending application 10/026029, filed December 18, 2001 and entitled "Optical aperture for data recording having transmission resonance enhanced by surface plasmon resonance".

REMARKS

The declaration filed with the present application specified that the present application claims priority to Applicant's copending application 10/026029, filed December 18, 2001. With this amendment, Applicant is indicating the relationship between these applications. This amendment is being filed within 16 months of the filing date of the prior-filed application. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii), no fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

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